

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/627,759
Response filed May 4, 2005
Reply to OA dated February 11, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A steam-supplying apparatus for hairdressing and beauty care,

2 comprising: in which pressurized steam is sent from

3 a steam-generating portion;

4 an electromagnetic valve;

5 a connecting tube;

6 a steam-blowing portion, the steam-generating portion sending pressurized steam through

7 [[an]] the electromagnetic valve and [[a]] the connecting tube, and forcibly blown blowing the steam

8 out of [[a]] the steam-blowing portion, the electromagnetic valve being disposed between the tube

9 and the steam-generating portion, the tube being flexible and being disposed between the

10 electromagnetic valve and the steam-blowing portion; comprising:

11 a heating steam circulation passage, disposed in the electromagnetic valve, conveying the

12 steam from the steam-generating portion through the electromagnetic valve and then to a return pipe,

13 [[to]] preliminarily [[heat]] heating an inside of the electromagnetic valve with the steam from the

14 steam-generating portion [[also]] when the electromagnetic valve is in a closed state of the

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/627,759
Response filed May 4, 2005
Reply to OA dated February 11, 2005

15 electromagnetic valve; and
16 an electric heater, disposed in the steam-blowing portion, to heat a steam passage
17 vaporization space in the steam-blowing portion, the electric heater changing water drops to steam
18 in the vaporization space.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): The steam-supplying apparatus for hairdressing and beauty
2 care as set forth in claim 1, wherein [[a]] the vaporization space is disposed on [[the]] a steam
3 passage in the blowing portion, and the electric heater is disposed near the vaporization space.

1 Claim 3 (original): The steam-supplying apparatus for hairdressing and beauty care as set
2 forth in claim1 or claim 2, wherein the steam-generating portion has a boiler to generate the steam,
3 and a pressure-reducing valve is disposed on a steam passage between the boiler and the
4 electromagnetic valve.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): A steam-supplying apparatus, comprising:
2 a steam-generating portion generating steam;
3 an electromagnetic valve receiving the steam from the steam-generating portion, the
4 electromagnetic valve forming a heating steam circulation passage inside the electromagnetic valve
5 to heat the inside of the electromagnetic valve with the steam from the steam-generating portion
6 when the electromagnetic valve is in a closed state;

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/627,759
Response filed May 4, 2005
Reply to OA dated February 11, 2005

7 a tube receiving the steam from the electromagnetic valve, the tube being flexible;
8 a steam-blowing portion receiving the steam from the tube; and
9 an electric heater being disposed in the steam-blowing portion to heat a vaporization space
10 of a steam passage in the steam-blowing portion, the electric heater changing water drops to steam
11 in the vaporization space, the steam-blowing portion outputting steam and not water drops.

1 Claim 5 (previously presented): The steam-supplying apparatus of claim 4, further
2 comprising a return pipe in communication with the heating steam circulation passage, with some
3 of the steam from the steam-generating portion passing through the heating steam circulation passage
4 and the return pipe when the electromagnetic valve is in the closed state and when the
5 electromagnetic valve is in an open state.

* * * *